NOTE XIV.

DESCRIPTION OF THREE NEW SPECIES AND A SYNOPSIS OF THE BUPRESTID GENUS NASCIO, C. & G.

BY

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1. *Nascio simillima*, v. d. Poll.

Obscure aeneo-cuprea, nitida, elytris opace flavis, maculis magnis irregularibus brunneis notatis, apice sanguineo. Caput crebre punctatum, supra inter oculos transverse impressum; thorax fortiter punctatus, ad basin excavationibus tribus magnis, in medio duabus minoribus. Elytra fortiter punctato-striata, bicostata, apice rotundato. Subtus crebre punctata. — Long. 12 mm., lat. 4½ mm.

Habitat Queensland. — In mus. nostro.

Head, antennae, thorax, scutellum, underside and feet dark coppery bronze, shining; the elytra opaque, ochraceous yellow, ornated with brownish spots, viz.: two small longitudinal spots between the shoulder and scutellum, two very large irregular triangular ones in the middle (the base of the triangle placed on the outer margin) and a small triangular one, common to both, before the apex; the apical portion of the outer margin crimson.

Head deeply punctured, with a large transverse impression between the upper part of the eyes.

Thorax convex, strongly punctured, the forder margin very slightly produced, the base nearly straight, the sides narrowed above, impressed above the posterior angles, which are acute and projecting; in the middle with an impressed longitudinal line, at the base with three large deep excavations, and two smaller and shallower ones in the middle before the interstices of the basal ones; the intervals between these excavations rounded.

Scutellum trapezoïdal, concave.

Elytra broader than the thorax at the base, rounded at the apex, deeply punctate-striate, with an elevated ridge near the suture.

Under surface strongly punctured, somewhat more shallowly at the 2nd, 3rd and 4th abdominal segment. — Forehead, underside and legs sparingly covered with white pubescence.

This species resembles much *Nascio vetusta* Boisd., but is much smaller, has the thoracic excavations otherwise shaped, without sharp interstices between them, etc.

2. *Nascio pulchra*, v. d. Poll.

Elongata, angusta, nitida, viridis; vertex macula atra, thorax in medio vitta lata et in lateribus duabus vittis angustioribus nigris ornatus; singula elytra in medio plaga magna atro-coerulea, duabus maculis sat magnis flavis notata. Caput prothoraxque crebre punctata; elytra fortiter punctato-striata, interstitiis dorsalibus 2do, 4to, 6to et 8vo magis elevatis, apice quadrispinosa. Subtus fortiter punctata. — Long. 7 mm., lat. $2^1/_2$ mm.

Habitat Queensland. — In mus. nostro.

Upper surface green, shining; the forehead between the eyes with two very small black spots and a large one on the vertex; the thorax with a broad median black band and a narrower one on each side; each elytron with a large bluish-black patch in the middle, which emits a fine line towards the shoulder and an other one towards the apex, ornated with two large yellow spots — one before, the other behind the middle; underside and feet bright shining metallic green.

Head strongly punctured; the tubercle before the insertion of the antennae faintly elevated.

Prothorax evenly convex, the anterior margin rather strongly produced in the middle; the sides slightly narrowing towards the top, somewhat impressed above the postorior angles, which are hardly projecting; coarsely punctured.

Scutellum small, sub-trapezoïdal, concave.

Elytra broader than the thorax at the base, sides slightly sinuate below the shoulders, swelling out behind the middle and then converging in nearly straight lines to the apex, which is provided with four strong short spines; deeply punctate-striate, the 2nd, 4th, 6th and 8th ridge somewhat more elevated.

Beneath strongly punctured, sparingly pubescent.

3. *Nascio quadrinotata*, v. d. Poll.

Elongata, angusta, nitida, supra aenea; frons, latera anteriora thoracis et pars infera colore laete viridi nitentia; singula elytra maculis duabus flavis notata. Caput prothoraxque crebre punctata; elytra fortiter punctato-striata, interstitiis dorsalibus levibus fere aequalibus, apice bispinosa, ad suturam obtusa. — Long. 9 mm., lat. 3 mm.

Habitat Tasmania. — In mus. nostro.

Upper surface shining bronzy with the forehead, the forder sides of the thorax, the scutellum and the shoulders bright shining green; the underside bright metallic green, the legs green at the outerside and bronzy at the innerside. Each elytron ornated with two small yellow spots — one before, the other behind the middle.

Head deeply punctured, with a strong tubercle before the insertion of the antennae.

Prothorax coarsely punctured, rather rugose; before the base transversely impressed; the anterior margin slightly produced in the centre, the sides straight, slightly impressed above the posterior angles, which are acute and projecting, the base somewhat lobed. In comparison with the allied species the thorax is narrower, whence results that the elytra look broader at the base and the shoulders more prominent.

The elytra are deeply punctate-striate, the ridges about equally elevated, truncated at the top, with a strong marginal spine, finely serrate along the apical portion of the margins. Beneath strongly but rather distantly punctured, much more closely and finely along the sides of the abdominal segments; sparingly pubescent.

This species is very close to *Nascio Enysi* Sharp but is larger, has an otherwise shaped thorax and a quite different coloration, *Nascio Enysi* being at the upper- as well as at the underside of the same bronzy colour, only having a bright coppery shining forehead.

Synopsis of Species.

A. Thorax with excavations. — The larger and more robust species; dark coppery bronze, with the elytra dull jellow, brown and black.
  1. The intervals between the excavations sharp; the excavation before the scutellum as if formed by the confluence of four smaller ones . . . *Vetusta* Boisd.
  2. The intervals between the excavations rounded; excavations circular . . . *Simillima* v. d. Poll.
  3. Excavations shallow; on each side of the thorax four granules. — Elytra black, with the apical portion croceous . . . . *Xanthura* Hope [1]).

B. Thorax without excavations. — The smaller species; green, bronzy or black, the elytra with yellow or red spots.
  a. The apex of the elytra without spines.
    4. Elytra green with a large bluish black patch in the middle, ornated with two yellow spots. . . [*Carissima* Waterh. [1]).
  b. The apex of the elytra provided with spines.
    α. Prothorax with black vittae.
      5. Elytra green with a large bluish black patch in the middle, ornated with four large yellow spots . . . . *Pulchra* v. d. Poll.

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[1]) This species I know from description only.

6. Elytra black with a large irregular longitudinal red band . . . . . *Parryi* Hope [1]).

β. Prothorax without black vittae.

7. Green, each elytron with a yellow spot in the middle . . . . . *Viridis* Mac Leay.
8. Bronzy, forehead bright coppery, each elytron with two yellow spots . . . *Enysi* Sharp.
9. Bronzy, forehead and undersurface bright metallic green, each elytron with two yellow spots. [*Quadrinotata* v. d. Poll.

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1) Mr. Edw. Saunders, redescribing Hope's types, says the thorax of *Nascio Parryi* to be black, I think he has had very old specimens, the thorax of my specimens being decidedly green with black bands.